

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Page 21, line 1, replace the single word heading CLAIMS: with the following heading:

CLAIMS WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Currently Amended) Mixing apparatus comprising:

a batch mixing vessel having an inlet to receive constituent material,

an agitation assembly for mixing the constituents within the vessel and an outlet to convey batches of mixed material, ~~the apparatus further comprising means~~

a pressurizing device for pressurizing the mixing vessel to assist in evacuation of the mixed constituents from the outlet, and

a batch ~~loading means~~ loader including a conduit assembly through which the constituents are conveyed in use by fluid flow means;

wherein a single pneumatic source is used both to pressurize the mixing vessel and to drive a jet pump comprising the batch loader ~~loading means~~.

2. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 1 where the mixing vessel is generally spherical.

3. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein the mixing vessel is provided with a clamping means arrangement for preventing accidental lifting of a lid ~~or the inlet~~ when the vessel is under vacuum.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim ~~4~~ 1 wherein the batch loader ~~loading means~~ comprises an inlet suction conduit assembly which includes an adjustment device means, such that the effective length of the conduit assembly can be varied in use.

6. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 5 ~~whether~~ wherein the conduit assembly comprises a section which is capable of telescopic movement.

7. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 4 to 6~~ wherein the conduit assembly is provided with an arrangement means operable to vibrate the intake.

8. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims the preceding~~ wherein an airflow is provided in the flow discharged from the mixing result.

9. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the mixing vessel is provided with a level sensor.

10. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the level sensor is an oscillating-vane level sensor.

11. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the agitation assembly ~~comprised~~ comprises mixing paddles.

12. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the agitation assembly is hydraulically driven.

13. (Currently Amended) A mixing vessel for mixing apparatus comprising:

a ~~salable~~ sealable charging inlet for loading constituents to be mixed, and

an outlet for discharging the mixed constituents, and

a pressurizing device ~~means~~ for pressurizing the vessel;  
wherein the mixing vessel is generally spherical.

14. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to claim 13 further comprising an internal protective liner comprising at least two ~~or more~~ segments.

15. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to claim 13 ~~or 14~~ comprising a clamping arrangement ~~means~~ for preventing accidental lifting of the lid/cover when the vessel is under vacuum.